

1. Margaret and Cornelius Sinclair had only been married for two years when they found themselves the proud parents of a 8 lb, 2 oz baby boy. Their first big decision in regards to their son was what to name him. The hospital staff was really pushing them to name this child so his birth could officially be registered with the **Vital Registration Office**, an office with the **Health Statistics Center**. After all, you can't even get a social security number without a birth certificate these days. After much discussion, the little boy became Spike Sinclair.

2. To protect newborn infants West Virginia state law requires that all infants be screened for certain disorders. Prior to leaving the hospital, Spike was screened using a small blood sample. The **Office of Laboratory Services** tested the sample and determined that Spike was negative for the disorders.

3. Margaret and Cornelius wanted to protect Spike from infectious diseases. When he was two months old, they took him to the pediatrician for his first immunizations and made certain he always received his boosters on time. His shots became one of the millions which were registered in the West Virginia Statewide Immunization Information System run by the **Office of Epidemiology & Prevention Services**.

4. When Spike was two years old, his parents contacted the **Office of Maternal Child Family Health** about their *HealthCheck Program* that works with health care providers to ensure that West Virginia children receive well child screens. Well child visits allow health care providers to make sure your child is healthy and growing and developing appropriately. They give parents and other caregivers a chance to ask questions and discuss concerns they may have. Well child visits can detect health problems early and in some cases, prevent health problems from occurring.

5. Margaret noticed that anytime Spike was around Great Aunt Sylvia and Great Uncle Stephen, who were both heavy smokers, he developed an ear infection, then a cough, and sometimes bronchitis. She didn't want him developing asthma so she contact the *Asthma Education and Prevention Program* for information to educate herself. She then called the *West Virginia Tobacco Cessation Program* to get information about smoke-free environments and banned all smoking in their home and asked others not to smoke around Spike. Both of these programs fall under the **Office of Community Health Systems and Health Promotion**.

6. Spike seem to be getting a little chubby and wanted to watch television more instead of playing outside. Margaret decided to monitor his classes one day and was horrified - the snacks served were Twinkies, chips, and lots of chocolate milk. Lunch was not much better with pizza rolls, French fries, and a couple of carrot sticks that most children threw away. Margaret started making calls to the **Division of Nutrition Services** which provided her with resources and materials on healthy snacks and meals. She met with the Director of the preschool, was invited to be on the Board, and they started the process of improving nutrition and physical activity for all the children.

7. When Spike was 15, his high school started renovating the hallways and there was talk of asbestos in the building. His parents were very concerned and contacted the **Office of Environmental Health Services** who supervised an inspection, completed lab analysis and gave an all-clear for the renovations to be completed.

8. There was a chemical leak in the valley where Spike's family lived and no one could use their water for over a week. Everyone had to use bottled water and **The Center for Threat Preparedness** established Health Command to monitor activities of DHHR in relation to response efforts and ensure that the public health and healthcare systems maintained the provision of essential services.

9. In later years, at age 60, Spike felt an uncomfortable sensation in his chest that just wouldn't go away. He called 911 and the paramedics were there in ten minutes. The **Office of Emergency Medical Services** licenses all emergency medical services. They also provide initial and continuing education, and provide job postings in this field.

10. Spike lived to be 87 years old. He had tried to climb a ladder and was found lying in his garden. He had beaten the odds - lived several years more than the average age at death for a male in this State (according to the *West Virginia Vital Statistics* publication) and many years past other males in his family. To determine the true cause of death, his body was sent to the **Office of Chief Medical Examiner** where they determine deaths due to accidental causes. And once again, Spike's name was entered at the **Vital Registration Office** with his date of death.